



South Sudan - Child Protection

Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

February, May and September 2020

Overview

The continuation of conflict since December 2013 has created a complex humanitarian crisis in the country, restricting humanitarian access and hindering the flow of information required by aid partners to deliver humanitarian assistance to populations in need. To address information gaps faced by the humanitarian response in South Sudan, REACH employs its Area of Knowledge (AoK) methodology to collect relevant information in hard-to-reach areas to inform humanitarian planning and interventions outside formal settlement sites.

Using the AoK methodology, REACH remotely monitors needs and access to services in the

Greater Upper Nile, Greater Equatoria and Greater Bahr el Ghazal regions. AoK data is collected monthly, through multi-sector interviews with the following typology of key informants (KIs):

- KIs who are newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have left a hard-to-reach settlement in the last month
- KIs who have been in contact with someone living in a hard-to-reach settlement, or have been visiting one in the last month (traders, migrants, family members, etc.)
- KIs who are remaining in hard-to-reach settlements, contacted through phone.

Selected KIs are purposively sampled and have knowledge from within the month prior to data collection about a specific settlement in South Sudan, with data collected at the settlement level. About half of settlements assessed have more than one KI reporting on the settlement. In these cases, data is aggregated at the settlement level according to a weighting mechanism, which can be found in the [Terms of Reference \(ToR\)](#).

All percentages presented in this factsheet, unless otherwise specified, represent the proportion of settlements assessed with that specific response.

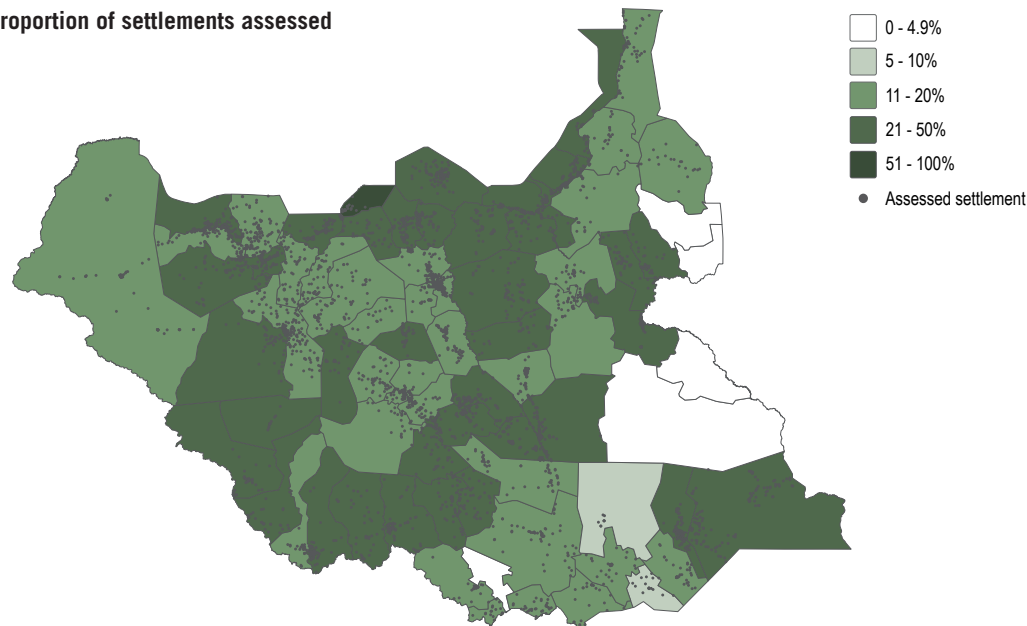
The findings presented in this factsheet are

indicative of the child protection trends in assessed settlements in February, May, and September 2020, and are not statistically generalisable.

The purpose of this factsheet is to present child protection - related findings before, at the beginning, and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hence the choice of February, May, and September 2020 as reporting months. The aim is to assess how COVID-19 has impacted selected child-protection indicators, and which geographical areas have been most affected.

Assessment coverage map²

Proportion of settlements assessed



Assessment coverage data³

34,240 Key informants interviewed

3,595 Settlements assessed

73 Counties assessed

73 Counties with 5% or more coverage¹

Key Findings

For the purpose of this factsheet, child protection and education indicators have been monitored across February, May, and September 2020 to assess their change throughout the year.

Overall, protection concerns for girls look more significant than boys', and it seems that COVID-19 has not impacted child protection indicators much. Sexual and gender-based violence were reported as a major protection concern for girls throughout 2020, notwithstanding the COVID-19 pandemic. During the year, Warrap showed concerning data regarding unaccompanied and separated children, while Budi county in Eastern Equatoria experienced high proportions of settlements where unaccompanied and separated children were reported in September.

In relation to education, girls generally had a lower rate of school attendance than boys during February 2020. From May 2020 instead, the school drop rate has been significant for both girls and boys, mainly due to COVID-19. Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal, and Jonglei have been the states where most children reportedly had to drop school.

¹ Data is only represented for counties in which at least 5% of settlements have been assessed. The most recent OCHA Common Operational Dataset (COD), released in March 2019 has been used as the reference for settlement names and locations.

² Assessment coverage map is the % coverage of the total amount of (unique) assessed settlements over the reporting period of February, May and September, and the total amount of known settlements in that county.

³ Assessment coverage data is presented as the cumulative coverage for February, May, and September 2020.



South Sudan - Child Protection

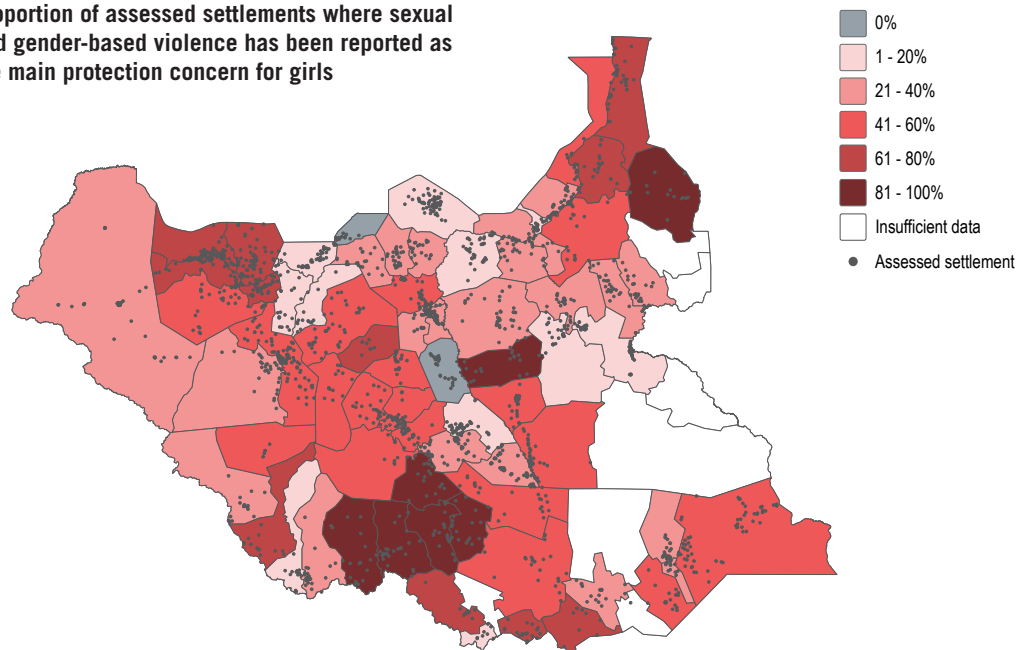
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February 2020

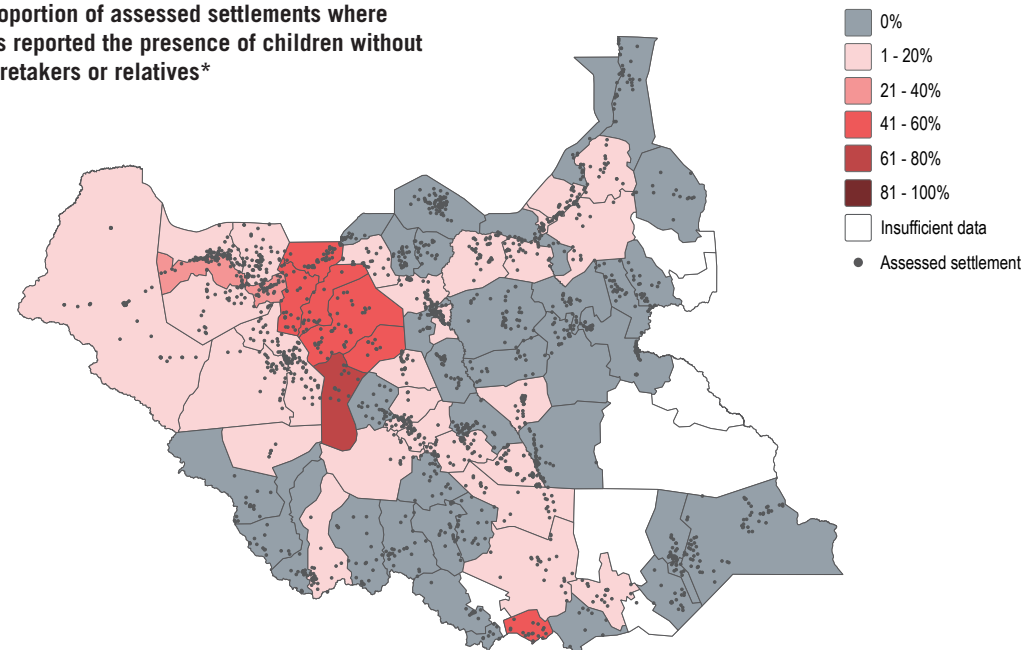
Sexual and gender-based violence

Proportion of assessed settlements where sexual and gender-based violence has been reported as the main protection concern for girls



Unaccompanied and separated children

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of children without caretakers or relatives*



* Counties of major concern: Twic, Gogrial East, Gogrial West, Tonj North, Tonj East, Tonj South in Warrap state; Kajo-keji in Central Equatoria state.

Protection concerns for girls

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the main protection concern for girls (younger than 18 years old) is early-marriage

Mvolo	95%	<div></div>
Ibba	90%	<div></div>
Mundri West	86%	<div></div>
Duk	82%	<div></div>
Mundri East	79%	<div></div>

Protection concerns for boys

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the main protection concern for boys (younger than 18 years old) is domestic violence

Yei	44%	<div></div>
Aweil Centre	26%	<div></div>
Jur River	25%	<div></div>
Melut	24%	<div></div>
Guit	23%	<div></div>

School attendance for girls

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported less than half of girls were attending school (younger than 18 years old), where schools were available

Twic	100%	<div></div>
Budi	100%	<div></div>
Kapoeta North	100%	<div></div>
Mundri West	100%	<div></div>
Malakal*	100%	<div></div>

School attendance for boys

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported less than half of boys were attending school (younger than 18 years old), where schools were available

Twic	100%	<div></div>
Kapoeta East	85%	<div></div>
Kapoeta South	80%	<div></div>
Budi	71%	<div></div>
Tonj East	60%	<div></div>

* Additional counties reporting 100%: Kapoeta East, Twic East.



South Sudan - Child Protection

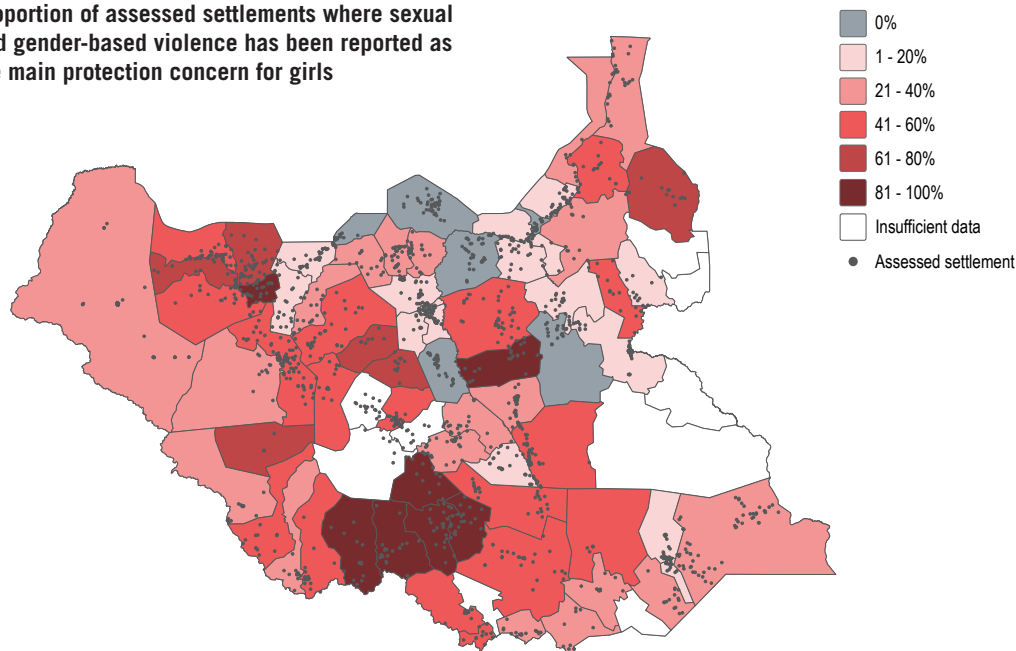
Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

South Sudan Displacement Crisis

May 2020

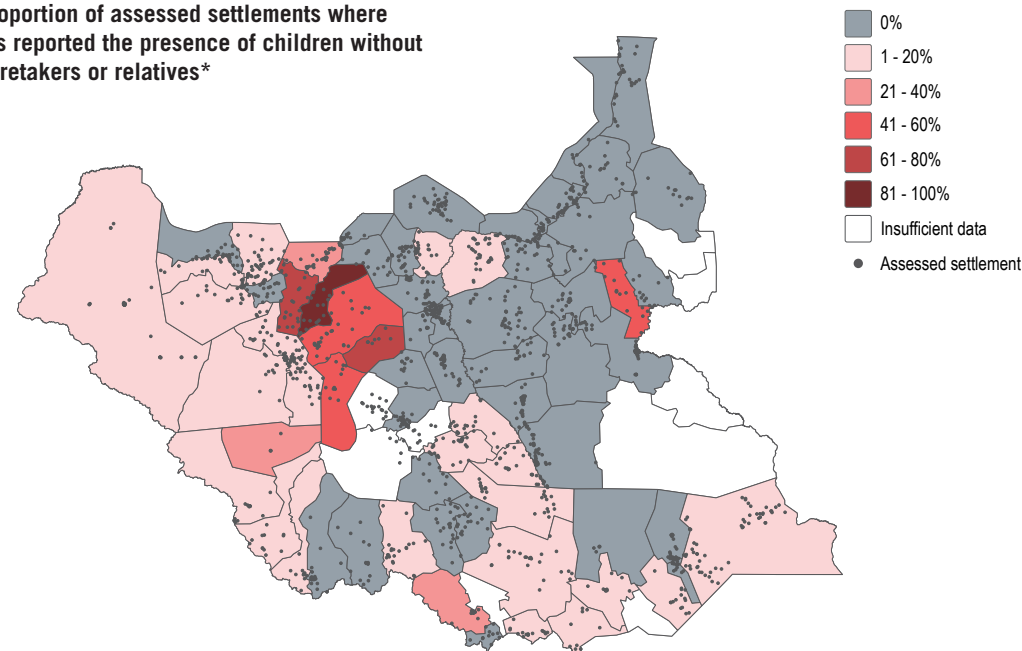
Sexual and gender-based violence

Proportion of assessed settlements where sexual and gender-based violence has been reported as the main protection concern for girls



Unaccompanied and separated children

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of children without caretakers or relatives*



* Counties of major concern: Gogrial East, Gogrial West, Tonj North, Tonj East, Tonj South in Warrap state; Ulang in Upper Nile state.

Protection concerns for girls

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the main protection concern for girls (younger than 18 years old) is early-marriage

Mvolo	100%	
Maridi	95%	
Ibba	86%	
Duk	82%	
Mundri East	81%	

Protection concerns for boys

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the main protection concern for boys (younger than 18 years old) is domestic violence

Nagero	50%	
Yambio	27%	
Jur River	26%	
Yei	22%	
Tambura	21%	

School attendance for girls

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported less than half of girls were attending school (younger than 18 years old), where schools were available

Fangak	100%	
Nyirrol	100%	
Kapoeta North	100%	
Twic	100%	
Leer*	100%	

School attendance for boys

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported less than half of boys were attending school (younger than 18 years old), where schools were available

Kapoeta South	100%	
Budi	100%	
Kapoeta East	100%	
Leer	100%	
Mayendit*	100%	

* Additional counties reporting 100%: Mayendit, Tonj East, Kapoeta South, Yirol West, Gogrial West, Duk, Tonj South, Juba, Terekeka, Malakal, Guit, Koch, Budi, Kapoeta East, Rubkona, Ayod, Mayom, Tonj North.



South Sudan - Child Protection

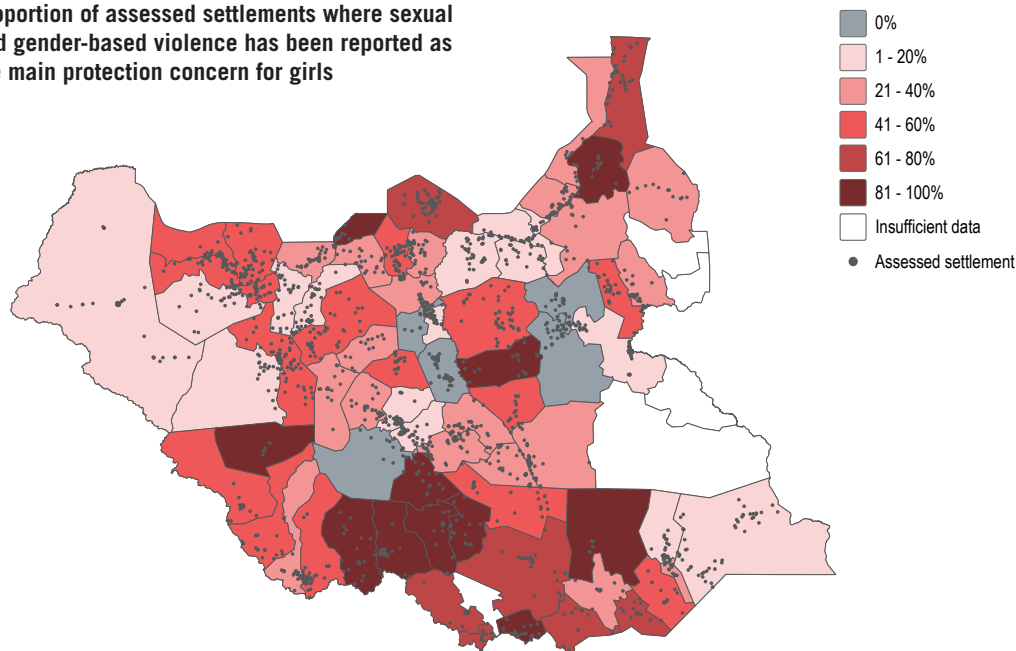
Assessment of Hard-to-Reach Areas in South Sudan

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September 2020

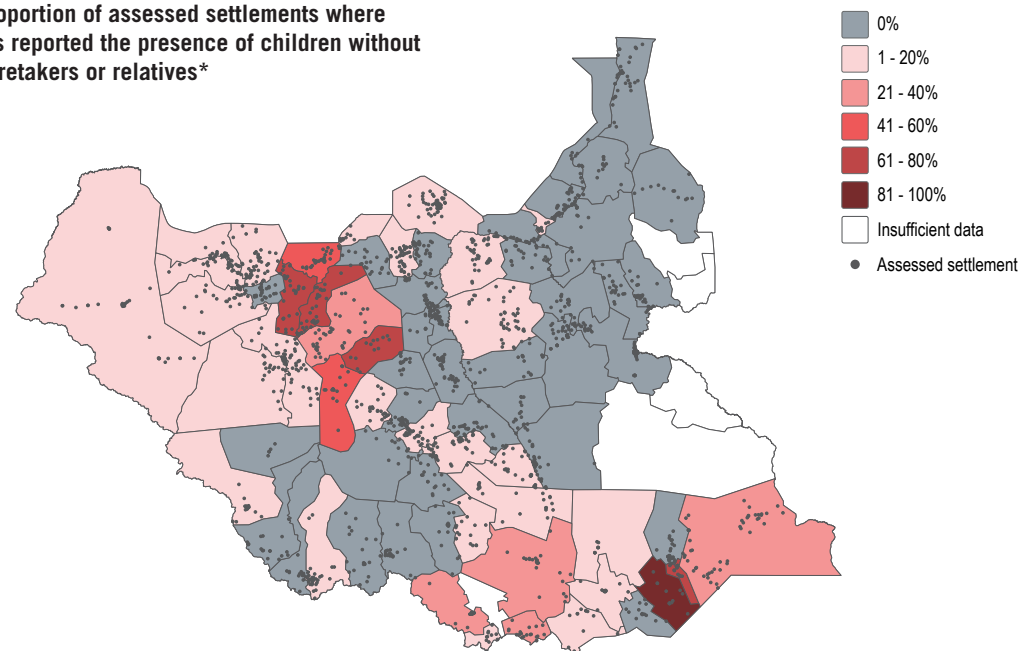
Sexual and gender-based violence

Proportion of assessed settlements where sexual and gender-based violence has been reported as the main protection concern for girls



Unaccompanied and separated children

Proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the presence of children without caretakers or relatives*



* Counties of major concern: Twic, Gogrial East, Gogrial West, Tonj North, Tonj East, Tonj South in Warrap state; Budi, Kapoeta South in Eastern Equatoria state.

Protection concerns for girls

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the main protection concern for girls (younger than 18 years old) is early-marriage

Lafon	86%	
Maridi	85%	
Kajo-keji	84%	
Mundri East	83%	
Abiemnhom	82%	

Protection concerns for boys

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported the main protection concern for boys (younger than 18 years old) is domestic violence

Melut	18%	
Nagero	17%	
Awerial	17%	
Jur River	16%	
Guit	14%	

School attendance for girls

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported less than half of girls were attending school (younger than 18 years old), where schools were available

Magwi	100%	
Twic	100%	
Gogrial West	100%	
Maridi	100%	
Terekeka*	100%	

School attendance for boys

Top five counties with the highest proportion of assessed settlements where KIs reported less than half of boys were attending school (younger than 18 years old), where schools were available

Kapoeta South	100%	
Jur River	100%	
Lafon	100%	
Wau	100%	
Terekeka*	100%	

* Additional counties reporting 100%: Jur River, Kapoeta East, Tonj North, Mundri East, Mvolo, Gogrial East, Ikotos, Ibba, Kapoeta North, Tonj South, Mundri West, Raja, Wau, Lafon, Kapoeta South, Manyo, Canal/Pigi, Tonj East, Juba, Kajo-Keji.